

3-2-2015

## Social Science Division meeting minutes 03/02/ 2015

Social Science Division

\*\*\*APPROVED VIA EMAIL MAY 5, 2015\*\*\*

Division of the Social Sciences  
University of Minnesota, Morris  
Morris, MN

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**Minutes**  
**Division Meeting**  
**March 2, 2015**

**Faculty in attendance:** Janet Ericksen (Chair), Joe Beaver, Ed Brands, Sheri Breen, Dave Brown, Steve Burks, Mike Cheyne, Donna Chollett, Rebecca Dean, Satis Devkota, Solomon Gashaw, Farah Gilanshah, Hiro Imai, Tim Lindberg, Hsiang-Wang Liu, Clement Loo, Kerry Michael, Ben Narvaez, Cristina Ortiz, Bibhudutta Panda, Roger Rose, Dennis Stewart, and Lauri Wyum.

**Faculty absent:** Cyrus Bina, Chris Butler, Jennifer Deane, Deb Economou, Steve Gross, Roland Guyotte, Seung-Ho Joo, Nick Leonard, Leslie Meek, Jennifer Rothchild, Cheryl Stewart, Marynel Ryan Van Zee

**Faculty on leave:** Arne Kildegaard (sabbatical), Oscar Baldelomar (Spring SSL), Tom Johnson (LOA), Heather Peters (sabbatical), Bart Finzel (recused due to position as Dean)

**Student Representative in attendance:** Dario Cervantes (Econ/Mgmt)

**Student Representative absent:** Julianne Chase (Soc/Anth), Kyle Jones Klausing (History), Peter Goldstein (Political Science), Bailey Stottrup (Psychology)

Convener Janet Schrunk Ericksen called the meeting to order at 5:29pm in IH 113.

1. Announcements and Updates
  - a. Janet has read over the Fall 2014 teaching evaluations, and overall, have found them to be very positive.
  - b. March 2 (today) was the last day to notify Janet, in writing, of your wish to be considered for early promotion and tenure or for promotion to full professor.
  - c. The division has completed three tenure-track hires this year. Congratulations to Ben Narvaez in History, Nina Ortiz in Anthropology, and Kevin Whalen in American Indian Studies (and History). We have two temporary searches underway, both one-year replacements, one in History and one in Economics/Management. Please note that tenure-track hiring requests for next year will be due toward the end of this semester. Janet will be chair through summer 2015. Feel free to talk with her if you have questions or concerns.
  - d. A current search is also being conducted for a new Social Science Division Chair. Rebecca Dean sent out an email in mid-February requesting nominations, and several were received. Both Dennis Stewart and Arne Kildegaard have accepted their nominations. After spring break there will be a reception to meet and ask questions of the candidates. CV and letter of interest will be available for each candidate.
  - e. By the end of spring semester, Janet would like to have a list of coordinators for each discipline for next year. Please note that the discipline coordinator position is not part of

the UMM Constitution and is not, then, an official administrative position. Within each division's governance guidelines—but Social Sciences does not apparently have such a guidelines document—duties or functions could be specified for discipline coordinators (as is the case in Sci/Math). But note: these are COORDINATOR positions, not chair positions; the idea is to convey information, part out work and make sure that the discipline as a group gets various tasks done, such as curriculum revision. With or without such specifications in a division structure document, when a faculty member serves as a coordinator, that work is considered part of her or his "service" portfolio during annual review and given weight accordingly. \*\*If you wish either to have or to be a new coordinator for your discipline next year, I encourage you to talk with your colleagues—the position should rotate!—then let Janet know if the discipline has a preference.

- f. Roger Rose provided information from his recent visit to the CUR (Council Undergraduate Research) conference. Some of the opportunities discussed at that meeting are relevant for our faculty. In particular, faculty who are interested in NSF programs for undergrad research should talk to him. There is RAU funding available as well as training in methods and research approaches. Please talk to Roger Rose if you have any questions.
2. Curricular Changes (ECAS forms were distributed before the meeting):
- NOTE: IC proposals need to be done before new students begin to register in mid-April, and given the timeline for approval, that means that the ECAS needs to be in the Div office not later than the end of March.
- a. Anth 2121, Reading Ethnography (Ortiz new course)
    - Donna Chollett suggested adding to the description to help give more structure to the course.
    - Rebecca Dean noted that there is limited number of regional courses Social Science is able to offer. She also mentioned that a major reason for the suggested structuring for this class was it allowed students to look at the regions they were interested in.
  - b. Anth 3604, Gender and Sexuality in Latin America (Ortiz new course)
    - This course is able to serve more than one discipline including GWSS and LAAS with possible recognition by HS and HIST disciplines as well.
  - c. Soc 2201, Sociology of Food (Rothchild new course)
    - Donna Chollett thought that the course description too broad and not reflective of what the course offers. She also mentioned that, based on the description, it might be more appropriate to give this course a Social Science designation instead of ENVT. It would make a strong SOC class but was not a correct substitute for the void created by Donna Chollett's retirement.
    - Rebecca Dean mentioned that it was broad but it was also only a 2xxx course.
    - Janet agreed that ENVT may be problematic designation and wanted to ask for clarification from Jennifer Deane and ENVT faculty. She also stressed that this was NOT a replacement for Donna's course.
    - Clement Loo thought this course could go either way for designation.
    - Ed Brands mentioned that it depends on how the course is talking about environment that would determine whether it fits the ENVT requirements
    - Janet asked if faculty wanted to meet before it went in the catalog (for: 1, against: 21). The course received provisional approval with the caveat of reexamining the ENVT designation.

- d. Soc 3307, Medical Sociology (Gilanshah new course)
  - Roger Rose suggested that this course might fit under Human Services as an elective.
  - Tim Lindberg wanted to clarify whether the course focused on the U.S. or international.
  - Farah Gilanshah responded that the whole course is focused on the U.S. but it does include other international perspectives.
  - A consensus determined that the description should be clearer by adding U.S. instead of national.
- e. Hist 3466 – 20<sup>th</sup> Century Popular Culture (Cheyne Regular Approval)
  - This course received provisional approval but still needs regular approval.
- f. Pol 2411, Model United Nations (Joo course revision)
  - This course was previously approved as a 2cr class but the discipline has decided that it works better as a 4cr course. No objections.
- g. Psy 2001, Research Methods in Psychology (remove some prereqs)
  - Removing some prereqs increases access for students
  - This revision included the removal of prerequisite of needing a psychology major/minor to open for more students.
- h. GWSS 2001, Gender and Sexuality in Media Fandom (T. Turk summer 2016 online course)
  - This course approval can go through one division.
  - Clement Loo mentioned students do not take fun summer courses (usually take required courses) so this course may not have attendance wanted. Loo also suggested that students would be more likely to take if it was clarified how it applies to GWSS major.
  - Tim Lindberg pointed out the short description was too technical for layperson and therefore students may not understand what course is about.

All courses were approved with expectation the revisions discussed will be considered.

- 3. Capital campaign ideas? What in this division or more generally about UMM might really encourage donors?
  - This is a chance to give input to capital campaign ideas (projects (community based research), campaigns, slogans, etc).
  - Roger Rose wanted to clarify whether this was only for individual plans.
  - Janet Ericksen replied that it applied to both mega and individual plans.
- 4. Last note: Engagement Survey results just came to Div Chair this morning; expect to hear more about them later in the semester. Only 25 people in this division responded, and at a glance, you all seem pretty happy.
  - The Engagement Survey results can in with complaints but the faculty, overall, was happy. In order to continue this pattern, please support your colleagues and find ways to make each other happy.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:26pm.